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Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

12 October 1950

Chief, Pullach Operations Base

Operational

Life History of Adolf HEUSINGER

Ref: MGL-A-3625(not to FDM)

attached herewith is a new curriculum Vitae of
subject of reference.

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Life History

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Lieutenant General (ret.) Adolf Heusinger descends from an old Brunswick family of philologists and theologians and was born in Holzminden on the Weser River on 4 August 1897 as the son of Professor Ludwig Heusinger. After leaving the elementary school he attended the high schools in Holzminden and Helmstedt graduating in the spring of 1915.

He then joined the 97th Inf Regt in Gera and Rudolstadt as an officer candidate and was sent to the Western front in the summer of 1915. After being seriously wounded near Verdun in May 1916 he received his commission in July 1916. He returned to the front in September and took part in the battles of the Somme, near Arras and in Flanders. Shortly afterward he was taken prisoner by the British in Flanders. He returned to Germany in late 1919.

After joining the German 100,000-man Army on 1 January 1921 he served with the 15th Inf Regt in Sondershausen and Kassel until 1927 and was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant in 1925.

In 1927 he passed the entrance examination for the "Kriegsakademie" (War College) and was trained for the career of a general staff officer in Stuttgart and Berlin from 1927 to 1930.

After transfer to the General Staff he worked from 1931 to 1934 in the Operations Division of the General Staff in Berlin. He married in 1931 and has two children. In 1932 he was promoted to the rank of Captain.

In 1934 and 1935 he served as a company commander in the 18th Inf Regt, Paderborn, and from then to 1937 as first general staff officer (G-3) of the 11th Div in Allenstein. In 1935 he was made a major.

In 1937 he was again transferred to Berlin to hold the post of first general staff officer of the Operations Division in the General Staff of the Army. He held this assignment until the fall of 1940 after being promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel in 1938 and to the rank of colonel in 1940.

After being appointed Chief of the Operations Division of the Army High Command he was made a major general at Christmas 1941 and a lieutenant general in January 1943. His missions in the Operations Division included the direction and planning of strategic operations for the campaigns in Poland, France, on the Balkans and in Russia, an activity which increasingly brought him in pronounced opposition to Hitler.

At the plot against Hitler's life on 20 July 1944 he was wounded and subsequently detained by the Gestapo in the Berlin Gestapo prison on Prinz Heinrich Street. Since the Gestapo did not succeed in

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providing sufficient evidence for his indictment he was released after many weeks in prison but was ordered to stay at his then place of residence in Walkenried/Harz and was no longer employed in any military capacity until the end of the war.

After the German surrender he was in American PW captivity from 5 May 1945 to 1948; a long time of this period he worked with the Historical Division.

Since 1948 he has lived in Munich working as an author and composing studies on the military and political situation in close cooperation with ex-General Speidel. He recently published a book under the title "Befehl im Widerstreit" (Command in Conflict), in which he deals with the development of the German Army during the period from 1923 to 1945.